

By: Shaheen

H.B. No. 1951

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to firm names used by licensed attorneys.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter H, Chapter 81, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 81.116 to read as follows:

Sec. 81.116. FIRM NAMES. (a) An attorney may not use a firm name, letterhead, or other professional designation that is false, misleading, or deceptive.

(b) An attorney may practice under a trade name that:

(1) does not imply a connection with a government agency or with a public or charitable legal services organization;

(2) does not imply the firm is something other than a private law firm; and

(3) is not false, misleading, or deceptive.

(c) The supreme court may not adopt rules that conflict with this section.

SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the Texas Supreme Court shall modify its rules as necessary to comply with Section 81.116, Government Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.